

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10  
MAY 1962 EDITION  
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO

SAC, DALLAS (89-43)

DATE: 11/25/63

FROM

SA MILTON L. NEWSON

SUBJECT

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Mr. WALTER BENT, Sales Service Manager, Eastman Kodak Company, Processing Service Division, 3131 Manor Way, and Mr. CHARLES BRONSON, Chief Engineer, Zarel Manufacturing Company, 9230 Denton Drive, were contacted by SAS MILTON L. NEWSON and EMORY E. HORTON on 11/25/63.

Films taken by Mr. BRONSON at the time of the President's assassination including 35 mm. color slides which were taken with a Leica Camera, and 8 mm. Kodachrome film were reviewed. These films failed to show the building from which the shots were fired. Film did depict the President's car at the precise time shots were fired; however, the pictures were not sufficiently clear for identification purposes.

One of the 35 mm. color slides depicted a female wearing a brown coat taking pictures from an angle, which would have, undoubtedly, included the Texas School Book Depository Building in the background of her pictures. Her pictures evidently were taken just as the President was shot. Approximately five other individuals in the ~~area~~ were taking pictures at the time.

Arrangements have been made with Mr. WALTER BENT whereby each package of film received for processing by that company, will be returned to the owner of the film with a slip of paper attached requesting the individual to notify the local FBI Office in the event pictures in the package reflect the scene when the President was assassinated. Mr. BENT advised this company does the processing for all the southwestern states. An airtel is being furnished southwest offices notifying them of the above arrangements in the event they receive calls of this type.

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November 25, 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. MOYERS

It is important that all of the facts surrounding President Kennedy's Assassination be made public in a way which will satisfy people in the United States and abroad that all the facts have been told and that a statement to this effect be made now.

1. The public must be satisfied that Oswald was the assassin; that he did not have confederates who are still at large; and that the evidence was such that he would have been convicted at trial.

2. Speculation about Oswald's motivation ought to be cut off, and we should have some basis for rebutting thought that this was a Communist conspiracy or (as the Iron Curtain press is saying) a right-wing conspiracy to blame it on the Communists. Unfortunately the facts on Oswald seem about too pat--too obvious (Marxist, Cuba, Russian wife, etc.). The Dallas police have put out statements on the Communist conspiracy theory, and it was they who were in charge when he was shot and thus silenced.

3. The matter has been handled thus far with neither dignity nor conviction. Facts have been mixed with rumour and speculation. We can scarcely let the world see us totally in the image of the Dallas police when our President is murdered.

I think this objective may be satisfied by making public as soon as possible a complete and thorough FBI report on Oswald and the assassination. This may run into the difficulty of pointing to inconsistencies between this report and statements by Dallas police officials. But the reputation of the Bureau is such that it may do the whole job.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
21	MAY 1965
RECORDS BRANCH	

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The only other step would be the appointment of a Presidential Commission of unimpeachable personnel to review and examine the evidence and announce its conclusions. This has both advantages and disadvantages. It think it can await publication of the FBI report and public reaction to it here and abroad.

I think, however, that a statement that all the facts will be made public properly in an orderly and responsible way should be made now. We need something to head off public speculation or Congressional hearings of the wrong sort.

Nicholas deB. Katzenbach  
Deputy Attorney General

It is important that all <sup>the</sup> facts surrounding President Kennedy's Assassination be made public in a way which will satisfy people in the U.S. and abroad that all the facts have been told <sup>and that a statement to this effect be made now.</sup> ~~these are the reasons why this is important~~

1. The public must be satisfied that Oswald was the assassin; that he did not have confederates who are still at large; and that the evidence was such that ~~he~~ he would have <sup>been</sup> convicted if tried.

2. Speculation about Oswald's antithesis ought to be cut off, and we should have some basis for rebutting ~~the~~ thought that this was a communist conspiracy or (as the San Antonio press is saying) a right-wing conspiracy to <sup>blame</sup> it ~~to~~ on the communists. Unfortunately the facts on Oswald seem almost too get-too obvious (Marxist, Cuba, Russian wife, etc.). The Dallas police have put out statements on the Communist conspiracy theory, and it was they who were in charge when he was shot and thus silenced.

3. The matter has been handled thus far with neither dignity nor conviction. Facts have been mixed with rumour and speculation. We can scarcely let the world see us <sup>totally</sup> in the image of the Dallas police when our President is murdered.

~~Perhaps these objectives will be satisfied by releasing a thorough FBI report on Oswald. The difficulty will be that as such it comes far within the~~

I think this objective may be satisfied by making public as soon as possible a complete and thorough FBI report on Oswald and the assassination. This may run into the difficulty of pointing to inconsistencies between this report and statements by Dallas police officials. But the reputation of the Bureau is such that it may do the whole job.

The ~~at~~ only other step would be the appointment of a Presidential Commission of unimpeachable personnel to review and examine the evidence and announce its conclusions. ~~This step is unappealing, might take time, and could, also, be carefully handled.~~

This has both advantages and disadvantages. I think it is <sup>fitting</sup> to wait <sup>for</sup> the FBI report and public reaction to it here and abroad.

I think, however, that a statement ~~for the effect~~ that all the facts will be made public, <sup>properly</sup> in an orderly and responsible way should be made now. We need something to head off public speculation or Congressional hearings of the wrong sort.